

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-2004

June 24, 2014

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

We are writing today to urge you to include consideration of a bicycle and pedestrian component as part of the NEPA process on the Amtrak Susquehanna River Bridge.

Currently, Marylanders have no safe way to cross the Susquehanna River on foot or on bicycle, making the river the largest non-motorized gap on the Atlantic seaboard. This gap is an obstacle in Maryland's long term plans for enhancing non-motorized transportation in the state. A bicycle/pedestrian bridge over the Susquehanna would be a boon to local recreation as well as an economic opportunity.

The Susquehanna Safe Crossing Coalition, comprised of a number of groups supporting bicycling and pedestrian opportunities locally and nationwide, has identified the upcoming NEPA process on the replacement or upgrade of Amtrak's Susquehanna River bridge as an excellent opportunity to fill this need. A pedestrian and bicycle crossing here would connect the communities of Havre de Grace and Perryville, as well as serve as a connection for several major trails in the area, including the East Coast Greenway running 2,900 miles through the Eastern Seaboard. Amtrak has expressed willingness to include bicycle and pedestrian access to their plans for the Susquehanna Bridge.

I respectfully ask that you give all due consideration to this request, in accordance with established policies and procedures. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

Reply To:

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